



SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 9, 1898

WE SEEM to be upon the very verge of war with Spain for the independence of Cuba. Suppose we are immediately successful in driving out the Spaniards; what then? There are two parties in Cuba, the revolutionists and the autonomists; which of the two has the majority? The autonomists claim it, and with a great deal of truth, for it has been publicly acknowledged by the revolutionary party that they are obliged to keep out of contact with their men, the representatives of the autonomists, lest there should be a wholesale desertion from their ranks. Col. Ruiz was killed, because, of his own motion, he attempted to enter the territory controlled by them, as an advocate of peace. Now, the American idea is that in a free country the majority governs. Would the revolutionists submit their claims to rule to a fairly conducted public election, in which men of all parties who are bona fide residents of Cuba should vote? We think not? If they do not, and we intervene, they have already declared their intention of fighting us, and the strong probability is that unless we join one party and aid in the subjugation of the other, both sides will turn upon us, and, like the man who interfered with another who was beating his wife, we shall have great occasion to be sorry for our precipitancy. If we don't intervene the story of the Kilkenny cats will be repeated and the situation will become worse than it is now. On the contrary, if Spain can be induced to agree to an armistice, an arrangement could probably be made by which the sense of all the people of Cuba would be taken as to its future, and if a large majority voted for independence, as would be almost certain to happen, the pride of Spain would be much less wounded by granting it to her own people than at the dictation of a foreign country.

FILIBUSTER outcries against the censorship of the press by Spain have been renewed because sensational dispatches calculated to fire the filibuster heart are suppressed and made to accord with facts before they are allowed to be put on the wires. If the people making these outcries only knew what went on in their own country during the war between the States with reference to press censorship they would be ashamed of themselves. Why, not only were the Southern correspondents of foreign neutral newspapers prohibited from sending their letters and dispatches through Northern mails, but correspondents of such newspapers on their way to the South were prevented from going through the federal lines, and shot and wounded and imprisoned for making the attempt, as was well and vividly described by Mr. Lawrence, one of them, in his interesting book.

SHIRT-SLEEVE diplomacy is bound to get this country into trouble, sooner or later. The present intention of the government is to go to war with Spain at once if she shall not relinquish all authority over Cuba by next Monday or declare her intention of doing so by that time. And this, too, though, by the highest law of Spain, the only authority there is by which such relinquishment could be effected lies in the Congress of that country, which is not in session, and will not be for a month; so that, even were the Spanish ministry disposed to surrender to a foreign country territory held by Spain for over four hundred years, it couldn't do so.

LET US put ourselves in the place of Spain. Suppose New Mexico, tired of being ruled as a territory when she is clearly entitled to become a State, should rebel, and Mexico should demand that we give her independence; what would be our answer? It would be bad for Mexico. Now what is the difference between the two cases? Simply that we are strong and Spain and Mexico are weak, or, in other words, that might makes right. Is the land of Washington to be the supporter of such a principle?

MR. RUSSELL, now Lord Russell, better known to elderly people as Bull Russell, because he was a conspicuous character in that famous flight, is now, thirty-seven years afterwards, publishing his recollections of the war between the States in the North American Review. The reliability of his so-called recollections may be judged by the fact that he says the Yankee words "guess" and "tarnation" were in common use among the people with whom he conversed in the South.

WHEN the sundry civil bill was under consideration in the Senate last Thursday, an amendment for the improvement of the harbor at Mobile was ruled out on a point of order raised by a Northern republican member, but amendments for the improvement of harbors in Ohio and Delaware were permitted. This has become a government of, by and for the North, and every thing is right provided the heart of the man who does it "beats warm for his country's cause."

THE LIBERTY of the people of this country was sadly infringed by the result of the successful war the North made upon the South. The danger of a successful war is infinitely greater to a republican, than to a monarchical form of government, as hero worship is natural, and, if unrestricted, may be produced to any extent, and its object, unless he shall subordinate his own, to his country's interests, will be a very dangerous man.

FROM WASHINGTON.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, April 9.

It is learned at one of the foreign embassies that the Spanish government today has under very earnest consideration the issuance of a proclamation declaring an armistice in Cuba. This decree has not yet been signed so far as is known here, nor does the information indicate that a final determination that it shall issue has been reached as yet. The measure, however, is being strongly pressed upon the consideration of Spain by some of the continental European powers, which have acquainted their embassies with the fact. It is the hope of the powers urging this move that by means of this concession war might be averted, although it is realized that the United States may not regard the concession as adequate to meet the case. The Spanish government, it is said, holds to the position that it will yield everything to avert war save two things—Independence of Cuba and American intervention. It insists that if either of these latter moves are insisted upon by the United States as a sine qua non and are carried into effect, it will regard them as overt acts and as placing the United States in the attitude of taking the first and aggressive step toward war.

Senator Burrows, who was at the White House this morning, says if a complete armistice is actually proclaimed, to cover a period of, say thirty, sixty or ninety days, contemplating the cessation of hostilities, it might present a new and important phase of the situation confronting the country. For it would mean a recognition of the belligerency of the existence of war, and it is to be borne in mind that the object of our intervention is the procuring of peace. Now we are justified in going into a war under the circumstances when one of the parties offers to lay down its arms, and as to the bona fide intention of such a decree, we are to question the good faith of a country and ask if it means what it says? It might have a material bearing in the present crisis, and it might not.

Inquiry in administration official circles shows that the situation still remains unchanged. Nothing has been received recently from United States Minister Woodford on the subject of a proposed armistice or indeed upon any subject. Even an armistice proclaimed by Spain there is authority for the statement that it would not change the purpose of the administration to force matters to an immediate issue. An armistice at this time, it is said, would not result in the postponement of contemplated action even for a day. Senators and Representatives who called on the President this morning stated that there was no reasonable expectation that hostilities could be avoided, and that their business at the White House related entirely to the contemplated action of Congress on receipt of the President's message next Monday. The indications, it is said, now are that the resolution authorizing the President to intervene in Cuba will not embody any declaration recognizing the independence of the island, but if such action is desired by a majority in each house it will be made the subject of a separate resolution to be introduced later. This conclusion had been arrived at, it is said, in deference to the wishes of the President.

The officials of the State Department are waiting with much interest to-day dispatches from Consul-General Lee, at Havana, which will tell of his safe departure from that city for United States Secretary Long promptly put a question on the rumor that another ship had been blown up in Havana harbor. He said in response to the interrogatory that he was very glad to report that the rumor was incorrect. Subsequently, after investigation by telegraph, Assistant Secretary Roosevelt said that the rumor was a mere foolish invention. According to the latest reports received at the Navy Department there are now two vessels at Havana, the tug Fern and the coast survey steamer Bache, both of which will be used probably to convey any Americans from Havana to the United States who cannot be accommodated on the regular steamers. The expectation is that they will leave Havana to-day or to-morrow at the very latest. The United States will then be without any naval representations in the waters of Cuba. There was a story afloat during the day to the effect that the President has decided to designate Lieut. Gen. John M. Schofield, retired, as an adviser to the Executive, the Secretary of War and the Commanding General of the Army in the event of hostilities. Gen. Schofield has been very actively engaged lately in organizing a national volunteer reserve to be ready for duty at the call of the President. In connection with this matter he has had consultations with the President and the Secretary of War, the latter of whom has given his hearty endorsement to the scheme. There is an act of Congress which prohibits the designation by the President any retired officer to active duty, but Gen. Schofield could serve voluntarily if he desired.

There no longer appears to be doubt that the foreign relations committee of the Senate will change its verdict on the method of recognizing Cuban independence, so as not to include the sent government of the insurgents and to make the declaration one for intervention only if the President represents the necessity for thus limiting the action of the country. The movement to secure general compliance with the President's wishes in this respect has gained rapidly until it includes apparently most of the older Senators and it is claimed that the committee on foreign relations will yield to the representations of these Senators. The members of this committee who are now expected to support the President are Messrs. Fry, Culom, Lodge, Clark, Gray and Daniel and some claim that Chairman Davis will take this position. There were reports here to-day that the Queen Regent would sign a decree declaring an armistice in Cuba and that this would be followed by Cuban independence later, but in no official quarters here, so far as diligent inquiry could learn, had any confirmatory information been received.

Senator Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, has submitted the correspondence and other papers bearing upon the effort to secure the removal of Mr. W. F. Harry, of Pennsylvania, from the position of member of the democratic national committee from that State to the other members with a view to securing their votes upon the question. The movement is the result of the action of the democratic convention of the State of Pennsylvania and of the executive committee of the democratic committee of that State in which Mr. Harry's removal was urged on the ground that he is not in harmony with the democratic party in respect of the Chicago platform and Mr. Guffey was recommended as his successor. The information regarding this action was forwarded to Senator Jones, by State Chairman Garman, and Mr. Jones was requested to take the matter up. The latter forwarded Mr. Garman's letter to Mr. Harry and he received from him a reply in which he asserted that the charges upon which his removal is sought are unfounded and defends his record as a democrat.

An order amending that of March 20, 1895, establishing the limits of punishment for enlisted men of the army who may be convicted of offenses contrary to good order and prejudicial to the interests of the military branch of the government is published to-day. A number of changes are made in the original order among which are those sections relating to desertion and the persuading of soldiers to desert. The order provides that the punishment for the former offense when joined in by two or more soldiers in the execution of a conspiracy, or for desertion in the presence of an outbreak of Indians or of an unlawful assemblage which the troops may be opposing, shall not exceed dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement at hard labor for five years. For persuading soldiers to desert the punishment is forfeiture of all pay and allowances and one year's confinement at hard labor. For disobedience of orders the punishment is six months' confinement at hard labor and forfeiture of \$10 per month for the same period.

Permission has been given by the State Department to the United States consuls in Spain to leave that country if they so desire pending the threatened severance of all diplomatic relations between Spain and this country. They have not been ordered to leave, as such a step is not resorted to except in the case of a rupture between the two nations, but they are permitted to exercise their own discretion in the matter. So far as the officials here have been advised none of the consuls has left his post in the peninsula.

The members of the steering committee say that the more they consider differences between intervention alone and intervention with recognition, the more they are convinced that it is a technical rather than a substantial difference. They find, however, said one of them to-day, that the question of Cuba's liability for the Spanish bonds lawfully made a lien on the Cuban revenue seems an open question and that the situation presents undoubted and vexing complications and impossibilities. Mr. Bailey, the democratic leader of the House, takes the position that neither the United States nor Cuba could possibly be held liable for the Spanish bonds, for which Cuba's revenues were pledged as security. "The security disappears," said he, "but the obligation of Spain remains. A people cannot be mortgaged." It is quite likely that if the republicans should finally decide upon a simple intervention resolution, that the democrats would antagonize it with an independence resolution.

Congressman Bailey when asked to-day if he thought war was unavoidable, said if he had made the speech Mr. Grosvenor made last Thursday he would certainly think so, but that as he had not made it, and only knew what every body else knows, he was still in doubt.

The Spanish imbroglio has knocked the lobbyists' business here cold, except that relating to army and navy contracts. One of them at the Capitol to-day said: "Why, you can't get a member of either house to talk to you now on any subject except war or women." The Spanish Minister himself stated to-day that he had at no time attached any importance to the petty annoyances directed against the legation property and officials. It has been attributed to ignorant vandalism. It can be stated that Mr. Polo in this matter has sought to lessen the friction between the two governments, rather than to increase it. Some of the annoyances of late have been of an aggravating character, even though petty, and were repeated again last night. Had he been disposed to do so the minister might have made these indignities cause for complaint, and an indignity to the German coast-of-arms in fact was the final cause of the rupture over the Caroline Islands. But Minister Polo has preferred to minimize these annoyances and to assure his government by cable that he was receiving every proper consideration here.

Secretary Sherman at 2:45 o'clock this afternoon had not received word from Consul General Lee that he had left Havana. The Secretary stated, however, that he expected to hear at any time that the Consul General had taken his departure in pursuance of orders.

It is said at the State Department that United States Minister Woodford at Madrid has not been actually recalled, but has been given full discretion to govern his movements by the progress of events at the Spanish capital. He has informed the department of his purpose of remaining at his post of duty so long as there is any possibility of rendering any service to his government, and consequently, unless the conditions at Madrid change, it is more than probable he will remain there up to the time of the beginning of hostilities between the two countries, if such a condition results from the present crisis.

As stated in this correspondence of yesterday's date, Congressman Walker's election committee up to one o'clock had failed to agree upon a report in favor of turning Mr. Swanson of Virginia out of his seat, nor did they succeed in doing so after that time. A last vote one republican, Mr. Bottelle of Chicago, voted with the democrats in favor of Mr. Swanson, making the vote stand for Mr. Swanson to three for Brown, the republican contestant, but hoping that the two absent republican members could be whipped into the ranks by next Wednesday, Mr. Walker had the meeting of the committee adjourned until that day.

The President to-day approved the act of Congress appropriating \$330,151 for the relief of John Roach, deceased, for labor and material, dockage, etc., for U.S. gunboats; also the act incorporating the National Foreign Cripple Mission; also the joint resolution to amend the act for the erection of a monument in Washington city in honor of the late Albert Pike.

Why Should We Fight Spain?—Importance of Cuban Inquiry and Dispassionate Decision.

To the Editor of the Alexandria Gazette: The Gazette in recent weeks has so ably and fully demonstrated the absence of any just cause for war with Spain that I feel diffidence in undertaking further discussion of the grounds assigned by its advocates for making it, but some thoughts further may with advantage be recorded.

On Wednesday the Washington Evening Star, referring, with ill concealed regret, to the improved prospect that day for peace, uses the following language: "If peace for warring Cuba, relief for starving Cuba, freedom for enslaved Cuba, and full reparation for the destruction of the Maine can be secured without war, it will be."

That is to say, according to the jingo programme, "peace for warring Cuba" is to be gained by more war; "relief for starving Cuba" is to come by measures which would cut off all supplies from the famished reconcentrados; "freedom for enslaved Cuba" is to be found in the anarchy and bloodshed which would inevitably follow its independence; and "full reparation for the destruction of the Maine" is to be secured by an expenditure of blood and treasure commensurate to which that involved in her loss is a trifle.

Close inquiry as to what we are to fight for before the die is cast which determines for peace or war is not only reasonable but indispensable.

What has Spain done to us that we should force her into war? For no sane man can deny that armed intervention between her and her Cuban subjects, and still more, the proposal to rob her of her most valuable colonial possession leave that country no alternative but to fight.

The commercial interests of the United States, we are told, not only justify but oblige us to put a stop to the war in Cuba, or rather to do the fighting there ourselves. That those interests have been seriously impaired is indisputable, but no law of nations any more than common sense permits us forcibly to remove the cause. The loss of southern cotton in 1861-'65 was a far more serious thing to Great Britain, and the South vigorously argued that she should, and earnestly hoped that she would, on that account interfere in her behalf, but she did not.

Another ground for fighting Spain is the alleged inhuman treatment of the insurgents by her army. But Weyler and his cruelties have passed away and against Blanco, his successor, there is no such charge. President McKinley, in his message last December, said expressly, "The policy of cruel rapine and extermination that so long shocked the universal sentiment of humanity (in Cuba) has been reversed." Are we to go to war in 1898 to punish Spain for inhumanity in 1897? If so, we might as well make the case stronger and include the enormities of Philip II in the Netherlands in our indictment.

But, it is said, the reconcentrados are starving and we must fight so as to relieve them, but fighting Spain is confessedly the most effective way to kill off, or rather to let die, the rest of these unhappy people. As ex-Senator Edmunds has happily said, "Everybody ought to see that if we went to war on the score of the ill treatment of the reconcentrados, the effect would be to deprive them of the assistance that we are now giving them with the consent of Spain, and would be followed by the great majority of them starving to death; for no sane man can suppose that we can get into possession of Cuba in time to extend relief to them."

Neither the interests of the United States then nor friendship for Cuba demands or permits our forcing Spain into war. In such a contest we would probably get the best of it, but not without a loss of life and property and injury to material interests otherwise fearful to contemplate. To what extent we should escape invasion, or at least devastation here and there, on our extended sea coast it is difficult to conjecture, but we are hardly invulnerable at every point. Perhaps Virginia, perhaps the New England or Jersey coast, perhaps the Carolinas or Louisiana might come in for the attentions of Spanish cruisers. We could not expect to have everything our own way, unpatriotic as it may be to suppose anything else. Our soldiers during the approaching rainy season would die at a fearful rate in Cuba, some of them of course would be captured and languish in Spanish prisons, and many probably be slain in battle, but we must, the jingoes tell us, look at these things simply as the fate of war and cheerfully endure them in view of the vast advantages to accrue from the conflict.

What are those advantages? Is the independence of Cuba, followed by a period of disorder and bloodshed, worth the money that we would have to pay to annexation later, and what is the value of Cuba as a part of the United States or could we afford to take her as such, with or without war?

L. M. B.

April 9, 1898.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE POPE.

Rumors have been circulated that the failure of the Pope's efforts was owing to the attitude of the United States, the nunciature at Madrid has issued the following note:

"The nunciature has to-day higher hopes than ever of the success of papal intervention. It is not true that President McKinley has rejected the Pope's intervention in favor of peace. Such impotence would be the more impotent, not only because it would display a harshness of temper, but because, however much any person might be the Pope's enemy, it would be impossible to misinterpret the voice of the venerable old man who recommends the preservation of peace. On the part of the Catholics of North America, we would never pardon such a disregard of the vicar-general of their church."

A dispatch from Madrid says: "Thursday night, after a cabinet council in which the important decision was arrived at to accept the advice of the Pope, a minister who had been present said he thought the country was nearer peace than it had been since the present trouble began. Early yesterday morning Minister Woodford, who was in a hopeful mood, such as has not been for some time, said to a friend that everything seemed to be going the right way for peace. The people seize at the idea that peace may be maintained by the usual efforts of the Pope and the powers."

ORANGE.—The Orange Observer says:

"Orange will soon be a great railroad town if all the rumors we hear are true. It is reported that the Southern will move its dispatcher's office here from Charlottesville; that this will be the end of a freight division, and that No. 15 will spend its nights here. It is also reported that a large revenue car will be built here, and that the pump-house moved thereto and that a gas bin will be erected."

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

From Madrid. MADRID, April 9.—The Globo (liberal) this morning rejoices at the "calmer judgment of yesterday's press," highly commending the utterances of the Correspondencia, De Espana and the Epoca, and adding: "Neither America nor Spain can ignore the collective action without during the European powers. England's participation necessitates Spain's watchful eye on the developments. We have not forgotten that the Times said, 'In order to treat with the insurgents the Spaniards must pocket their pride.' Unless the powers tie the Americans' hands against further aiding the insurgents, their interference will be of little benefit to America, Spain or Europe."

The political situation is unchanged. The opinions expressed by the newspapers are contradictory. Some of them hold that war is inevitable, and others hope for peace.

A political society here with French connections has drafted an address to the government declaring that the United States desires to "impair Spain's indisputable sovereignty over Cuba and Porto Rico," asserting that those islands are the keys of the Gulf of Mexico, and claiming that it must be Spain's mission to retain them as a guarantee for the maintenance of the commercial interests of Europe, pointing out that "to ask Spain to hand down her flag in Cuba is tantamount to asking Europe to withdraw from that part of the world." The members of the society promise to make every sacrifice in the interests of the fatherland.

Foreign News.

ATHENS, April 9.—King George, speaking yesterday to several delegates from Aegium, Morea, asked the people to "assist in liberating themselves and freeing the country from the tyranny of the parties." The King's words have caused a great sensation.

PRAGUE, Bohemia, April 9.—There have been severe earthquake shocks in the vicinity of Litochowitz. At the village of Klafat seven houses collapsed and thirty-eight families were rendered homeless. The subterranean disturbances continue.

PARIS, April 9.—It is officially announced here that the visit of the ambassadors at Washington to President McKinley was, primarily, in order to give the President the opportunity of notifying Europe of the necessity for the intervention of the United States in Cuba.

PARIS, April 9.—It has been decided that the second trial of M. Emile Zola will begin on May 23 in the Assizes Court of Versailles, after the elections, thus relieving the government of the embarrassment which would result from an adjournment of a judicial issue.

CARO, Egypt, April 9.—The British in the defeat of the Dervishes yesterday at Athra, and the capture of Mahmood, the Dervish commander, and 4,000 of his followers, lost, in addition to the officers killed, carried yesterday, ten killed and ninety wounded. The Egyptians lost fifty-one men killed and four hundred officers and 319 men wounded. The Dervishes lost about 2,000 men killed.

LONDON, April 9.—The Marquis Exeter died this morning as the result of a bicycling accident.

The Dyea Trail Disaster.

SKAGWAY, Alaska, April 4, via Victoria, B. C., April 9.—The horror on the Dyea trail is growing in magnitude hourly. As the work of rescue proceeds it becomes apparent that many more lives were lost than at first were thought possible. It is now believed that between seventy-five and 100 men and women were killed by the avalanche. Many bodies will never be recovered, or until the summer sun melts the tons of snow and ice that now bury them from sight. Two or three thousand men are shoveling away the debris in search of the dead and dying. Twenty-two dead bodies have been recovered and 25 have been taken out alive. It is estimated that 10,000 tons of outfits are buried under the snow and ice. The exact location of the slide is given at two and a half miles above Sheep Camp and 100 yards above the Oregon Improvement Company's power house. Here an immense gorge rises at a very steep incline into the hills and it was down this avalanche came. The slide covered the trail for several hundred yards at a depth of 50 feet in many places. It has effectually discontinued travel for the present and it will be some time before it can be resumed.

From Havana.

HAVANA, April 9, 10 a. m.—All is quiet in Havana at this hour. U. S. Consul General Lee expects to call on Captain General Blanco this morning in order to say goodbye.

Walter B. Barker, the U. S. Consul at Sagua la Grande, has arrived here. Alexander Brice, the U. S. Consul at Matanzas, is supposed to have left that place on a schooner.

The American newspaper correspondents, with Consul General Lee, are ready to leave here on the Fern at about 5 o'clock this afternoon. Alexander Gollan, the British Consul here, is ready to take charge of American interests so far as allowed.

A diplomat here told a correspondent last night that he did not believe there would be war between the United States and Spain.

ENTOMBED IN SNOW.—Advices received at Seattle, Wash., last night

from Vancouver, B. C., bring the story of the terrible avalanche on the Dyea trail. Seventy-five men who were working their way over the pass were caught by a great volume of snow that came down the mountain side. Thirty-one bodies have already been recovered. The trail is alive with men and outfits of all kinds bound for the Klondike. The rush is almost as great as it was last year.

The mountains are covered with snow to the depth, in places, of forty or fifty feet, and slides have been of frequent occurrence, but this is the first fatality of such magnitude recorded.

BUCKLE'S ARNICA SALVE.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Ernest L. Allen.

The farmer, the mechanic and the bicycle rider are liable to unexpected cuts and bruises. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve is the thing to keep on hand. It heals quickly and is a well known cure for piles. Charles G. Lennon.

Launch of the Rowan.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 9.—The United States torpedo boat Rowan, the first war vessel built in the State of Washington, has been successfully launched. It is expected to have ready for service within two weeks time. The Rowan is 170 long and 17 feet wide. Her draught is five feet six inches. She is a twin screw and has two triple expansion engines. Her contract speed is 26 knots per hour.

Topeka and Somers Leave Port.

WYOMOUTH, Eng., April 9.—The U. S. cruiser Topeka formerly the Diogenes, Lieutenant Knapp in command, and the U. S. torpedo boat Somers, command by Ensign Hazleton, sailed this morning for the United States. Fifteen members of the Topeka were obtained from the American line steamer St. Paul at Southampton. All the men on board the St. Paul were eager to join the cruiser.

Foreign Steamer Purchased.

HONG KONG, April 9.—The United States officials here have purchased the British steamer Zifro. She is of 1,062 tons gross register, 214 feet long, has 31 feet 9 inches beam and draws 21 feet 3 inches of water. The steamer was built at Aberdeen in 1894, and was owned by the China and Manila Steamboat Company.

From Key West.

KEY WEST, Fla., April 9.—The expected arrival of Consul General Lee and the Americans from Havana is much discussed, though it is not known at what hour they will arrive. Probably it will be late this afternoon or to-night. It is thought that Consul General Lee will leave for Washington forthwith.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

R. v. Baker P. Lee, rector of Johns Memorial Church, Farmville, has accepted a call to a church at Columbia, S. C.

The electric searchlight being erected at Fort Monroe has a beam light nine feet in diameter, and will illuminate an object one hundred miles off.

Mr. E. Donaldson has been appointed division superintendent of the Pullman Palace Car Company, with headquarters in Richmond, to succeed the late K. C. Edwards, whose sudden death occurred recently.

The monument to the Confederate soldiers, who fell in the battle at New Market, will soon be in position in St. Matthew's graveyard, in that place. It is to be unveiled in May with appropriate and interesting ceremonies.

Emmett Marshall, who shot and killed his brother's wife in Appomattox a few days ago, was indicted for murder yesterday and will be tried on the first day of the next term of Appomattox court. He is now in the Lynchburg jail.

What is supposed to be part of the gang of postoffice robbers who have been operating in Virginia and North Carolina for the past three years were caught at Waynesboro yesterday, when two strangers were arrested on suspicion.

Mr. George Williams, a native of Bombay, India, who in early life was a prominent London architect, died on Thursday evening at "Rock Hill," near Casanova station, Fauquier county, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. Several children survive him.

Gen. Thomas A. Brander, commander of the Virginia Division of United Confederate Veterans, has written A. P. Hill Camp, at Petersburg, allowing that camp the privilege of naming the sponsor for this State to the Confederate reunion at Atlanta in July next.

Rev. William M. Dame, D. D., rector of Memorial Episcopal Church, of Baltimore, has been selected and has agreed to deliver the sermon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Richmond, on Sunday, April 17, when the Jefferson Davis memorial window will be unveiled.

Gabriel Vaughn and William Horton, convicted of burglary at the last term of the Warren County Court, and sentenced to the Front Royal jail, escaped Thursday night by greasing their naked bodies and crawling through a small opening at the bottom of the cell door and are still at large.

The will of the late Mrs. Mary Mann Meade was admitted to probate in Berryville this week. The decedent devised her estate, consisting of the "Prospect Hill" farm in Clarke county, and other valuable property, to her daughter, Miss Thomas Meade and her son, F. Key Meade.

Senator Daniel, who is in Lynchburg, when asked yesterday concerning Spanish affairs said: "I have carefully studied the situation and I believe we are close to war. I have seen nothing to cause me to believe that the President is right. Of course many things have come to my knowledge that are not understood by the public. I think the President has been right."

Mr. E. D. Roat, of Winchester, has purchased the Striding Springs property, in Augusta county, from Major H. M. Bell, of Staunton, for a company of which he is president. A stock company was formed some time ago for the purchase of this valuable property, with a view to establishing a permanent colony of G. A. R. veterans, similar to that at Fitzgerald, Ga. The price paid was \$100,000.

THE PANAMA CANAL.—After nearly a month's work inspecting the Panama canal, the international commission sailed yesterday for Europe, via New York, on the steamship Alliance. On the report of the commission depends largely the future of the Panama canal project. There is good reason to believe that it was favorably impressed with what its members saw. The present economical system, in contrast to the reckless extravagance of previous administrations, attracted attention.

At Cumberland, Md., yesterday, W. E. Sands, a tailor, shot his wife twice while she was standing in the door of Swift's beef house, asking to Mrs. Moses Erskine. The wounds are painful, but not fatal. The man and woman have had frequent disagreements and had separated and Sands about two weeks since attempted suicide. They formerly lived in Berryville, Va.

Advices received from Manila say the insurgents are in possession of Cebu, one of the Philippine islands.

I desire to attest to the merits of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as one of the most valuable and efficient preparations on the market. I broke an exceedingly dangerous cough for me in 24 hours, and in gratitude therefore, I desire to inform you that I will never be without it and you should feel proud of the esteem in which your Remedies are held by people in general. It is the one remedy among ten thousand, success to it.—O. R. DOWNEY, Editor Democrat, Albion, Ind. For sale by J. H. Janney, Druggist, 701 King street.

Thousands of sufferers from grippa have been restored to health by One Minute Cough Cure. It quickly cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, grippa, asthma and all throat and lung diseases. Charles G. Lennon.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

The Spanish steamer Barcelona sailed from New Orleans on board for Genoa, via Havana, having on board 600 mules, 25 horses, cattle, poultry and other supplies for the Spanish government in Cuba.

This morning near McGehee Station, Monroe county, Tenn., John McGehee and his son Joe shot and killed Henry and Ernest Howard and James Murphree and mortally wounded Tom Howard. The Howards were brothers and sons-in-law of McGehee. The killing was the result of a family feud. The McGehees are prominent people and highly connected.

The E. I. Dupont De Nemours Company of Wilmington, Del., it is understood, has received from the United States government a contract for furnishing \$1,500,000 worth of powder, and the mills are being retooled to turn out the material as rapidly as possible.

The remains of Miss Francis F. Willard were cremated to-day at Graceland cemetery, Chicago. The ashes were taken to Towhee cemetery, where services will be held to-morrow. The ashes will then be interred at the Willard family lot at Rose Hill.

The charter of the steamer Adula, which was engaged to take American citizens from Barcelona, Manzanillo and other places in Cuba was cancelled to-day under instructions from the State Department at Washington.

The British steamship Virginia has been placed at the disposal of the American Government at San Juan, Porto Rico, and other Americans to take them to St. Thomas, Danish West Indies.

Lieutenant W. C. Miller, of the U. S. navy, and Miss Elizabeth McCall, daughter of Commander McCall, of the U. S. S. Marblehead, were married at Fort Monroe to-day.

Three miles of submarine cables have been ordered to connect submarine mines with Fort De Ware, Fort Mott and the Delaware shore battery.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

Dispatches from Madrid state that both the United States and Spain are standing firm in the positions they have taken and that no new negotiations on the disputed points are in prospect at the same time there are signs that war may be averted at the last moment. Premier Sagasta, it is said, was forced to take a position tending in the direction of war because the ministers of war and marine threatened to resign unless he followed that course. The country could not spare the services of these two important officers at present. The dispatches from Madrid, after passing the press censor, are distrustful in diplomatic circles in London, where the belief prevails that a Spanish Cabinet crisis, and probably a revolution, is imminent. A member of the Spanish Cabinet says that the government would weaken itself by concessions antagonistic to public sentiment.

A dispatch from Washington received at Madrid to-day yesterday afternoon states that no negotiations will be undertaken by the American government except through Minister Woodford, who is instructed to negotiate only on the basis of a demand for the immediate cessation of hostilities in Cuba and the furnishing of aid to the reconcentrados. Premier Sagasta says the Spanish government has no intention of opening new negotiations.

U. S. Minister Wood